

Solute Balance Equation

General balance equation. $\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot \vec{j}(u) = \hat{f}(u)$

1) Define unknown to be balanced

- mass/mols of aqueous solute per unit volume of porous medium

$$u \equiv \phi \rho_f X = \phi c$$

X = mass mo fraction $[\frac{M}{M}]$ or $[\frac{N}{N}] = [1]$

ρ_f = mass/molar density $[\frac{M}{L^3}]$ or $[\frac{N}{L^3}]$

$c = \rho_f X$ = mass/molar concentration $[\frac{M}{L^3}]$ or $[\frac{N}{L^3}]$

2) Define fluxes

• Advective solute flux due to fluid flow

$$\vec{j}_A = \phi \vec{v} c = q c \quad [1 \frac{L}{T} \frac{M}{L^3}] = [\frac{M}{L^2 T}] \text{ or } [\frac{N}{L^2 T}]$$

• Diffusive solute flux due to concentration gradients

$$\text{Fick's law: } \vec{j}_D = -\phi \tau D_m \nabla c \quad [1 \frac{L}{T} \frac{1}{L} \frac{M}{L^3} = \frac{M}{L^2 T}] \text{ or } [\frac{N}{L^2 T}]$$

τ = tortuosity of pore space [1]

D_m = molecular diffusion coefficient $[\frac{L^2}{T}]$

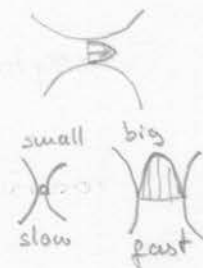
• Mechanical dispersion

Def: Spreading of solutes due to variations in fluid velocity around the average velocity.

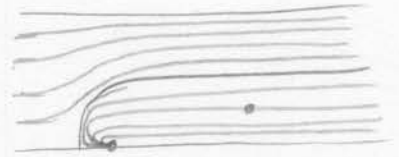
Causes: a) Velocity variation in single pore (parabolic velocity profile)

b) Velocity variation between pores of different diameters

c) Variation of the length of the path in different pores



- ⇒ strongest in direction parallel to velocity
weaker in transverse direction
- ⇒ Magnitude increases with velocity
- ⇒ changes orientation with velocity field



Mechanical Dispersion Tensor

$$\underline{D}_M = (\alpha_L - \alpha_T) \frac{\mathbf{q} \otimes \mathbf{q}}{|\mathbf{q}|} + \alpha_T |\mathbf{q}| \underline{I}$$

α_L = longitudinal dispersivity [L]

α_T = transverse dispersivity [L] $\alpha_T < \alpha_L$

\mathbf{q} = volumetric flux [$\frac{L}{T}$]

Outer product. $\mathbf{q} \otimes \mathbf{q} = \mathbf{q} \mathbf{q}^T = \begin{pmatrix} q_x \\ q_y \\ q_z \end{pmatrix} (q_x \ q_y \ q_z) = \begin{pmatrix} q_x^2 & q_x q_y & q_x q_z \\ q_x q_y & q_y^2 & q_y q_z \\ q_x q_z & q_y q_z & q_z^2 \end{pmatrix}$

Spreading due to mechanical dispersion is only visible in presence of concentration gradient

Dispersive flux $\mathbf{j}_M = -\underline{D}_M(\mathbf{q}) \nabla c$

Hydrodynamic dispersion: $\underline{D}_H = \phi \tau D_m \underline{I} + \underline{D}_M(\mathbf{q})$

3) Source term

For now simply a homogeneous reaction

$$\hat{f} = \phi k (c - c^{eq})$$

k = reaction rate constant [$\frac{1}{T}$]

c^{eq} = equilibrium concentration [$\frac{M}{L^3}$] or [$\frac{M}{L^2}$]

Solute balance.

$$\phi \frac{\partial c}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot [\mathbf{q}c - \underline{D}_H(\mathbf{q}) \nabla c] = \phi k (c - c^{eq})$$